allotment of flats in Narela. However, the DDA has been able to dispose of 1172 flats to the Delhi Police at a cost of Rs. 85.54 crore and another 1372 Nos. EHS flats to the Punjab Migrants on hire purchase basis and a sum of Rs. 6.82 crores has been received from them as an initial amount. The rest is to be realized in instalments. DDA has also floated two special schemes in 2002 and 2003 and disposed of 1429 flats in Narela.

Urban Commuting System for Chennai

860. SHRI G.K. VASAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether an urban commuting system on the lines of Delhi Metro has been proposed for Chennai city;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the State Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) There is no proposal the Government of India at present for Urban Commuting System for Chennai city on the lines of Delhi Metro.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Malfunctioning of lifts and elevators

861. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the increasing incidence of malfunctioning of the lifts/elevators in public buildings, especially in hospitals, where fatal accidents have occurred due to negligence in maintenance;

(b) if so, how many such accidents happened in public places in Delhi during the last two years and whether any study has been conducted to find out the causes; and

(c) if so, the remedial measures being adopted to eliminate lifts getting stuck in the hospitals endangering lives of the patients?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) The lifts/elevators maintained by the Central Public Works Department (CPWD), have been functioning properly, except for occasional minor malfunctioning which is rectified immediately. There have been no cases of fatal accidents due to malfunctioning of lifts installed in hospitals under the charge of the CPWD.

The Central Government has been informed that by and large the lifts in the buildings of the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) are working satisfactorily and there has been no fatal accident in hospital or in any other municipal building under its jurisdiction.

The Government of National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi has reported that no increased incidence of malfunctioning of lifts/elevators in public buildings, involving fatal accidents, has been observed.

(b) The CPWD has stated that in one case of January, 2003, a technician of the manufacturing firm concerned was trapped while working on the lift in the Minto Road Hostel. There was no passenger in the lift. It was a human error by a co-technician of the said firm.

No accident in the NDMC hospitals, namely, Charak, Palika Hospital, Moti Bagh and Palika Maternity Hospital, Lodhi Colony occurred in the last two years due to malfunctioning of the elevators.

The Govt. of NCT of Delhi has stated that no study has been carried out to find the causes as no fatal accident has taken place in its public buildings during the last two years.

(c) The CPWD, NDMC and Govt. of NCT of Delhi have stated that appropriate measures are taken to keep the lifts in good condition and to ensure that the lift do not get stuck during normal functioning. Repairs and maintenance of lifts are got done through the lifts-manufacturers/ specialized firms, as per the relevant safety standards.

Water scarcity in Karnataka

862. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Bangalore and other cities in Karnataka